

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A method of purifying lithium sulfide wherein lithium sulfide obtained by reacting lithium hydroxide with hydrogen sulfide in an aprotic organic solvent is washed with an organic solvent at a temperature of 100°C or higher.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of purifying lithium sulfide according to claim 1, wherein the organic solvent used for washing is an aprotic polar solvent.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of purifying lithium sulfide according to claim 2, wherein the organic solvent used for washing is N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone (NMP).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): A lithium sulfide wherein a total content of sulfur oxides is 0.15 % by weight or less and wherein a lithium N-methylaminobutyrate (LMAB) content is 0.1 % by weight or less.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A solid electrolyte for a lithium rechargeable battery comprising the lithium sulfide according to claim 4.

Claim 6 (Original): The solid electrolyte for a lithium rechargeable battery according to claim 5, wherein the ionic conductance is 1×10^{-3} S/cm or higher.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A solid battery comprising the solid electrolyte for a lithium rechargeable battery according to claim 5.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): A solid battery comprising the solid electrolyte for a lithium rechargeable battery according to claim 6.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 1, comprising:
reacting lithium hydroxide with hydrogen sulfide at a temperature of 0 to 150 °C in an aprotic organic solvent to obtain a lithium ~~hydroxide~~ sulfide ~~in a aprotic organic solvent~~;
removing the aprotic organic solvent by decantation at a temperature of 100 °C or higher under an inert gas to provide a solid lithium ~~hydroxide~~ sulfide;
adding an fresh aprotic organic solvent to the solid lithium ~~hydroxide~~ sulfide to provide a dispersion of lithium ~~hydroxide~~ sulfide;
stirring the dispersion of lithium sulfide at a temperature of 100 °C or higher; and
drying the stirred dispersion of lithium sulfide under a stream of inert gas at a normal pressure.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): A lithium sulfide obtained by the method according to Claim 9, wherein a lithium N-methylaminobutyrate (LMAB) content in the lithium sulfide is 0.1 % by weight or less.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The lithium sulfide according to Claim 10, wherein the lithium N-methylaminobutyrate (LMAB) content in the lithium sulfide is 0.0005 % by weight or less.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The lithium sulfide according to Claim 10, wherein a total sulfur oxide content in the lithium sulfide is 0.001 % by weight or less.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The lithium sulfide according to Claim 10, wherein the total sulfur oxide content in the lithium sulfide is 0.001 % by weight or less and the lithium N-methylaminobutyrate (LMAB) content in the lithium sulfide is 0.0005 % by weight or less.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the aprotic organic solvent in said reacting is identical to the aprotic organic solvent for washing.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the temperature of the organic solvent used is lower than the boiling temperature of the organic solvent.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) : The method according to Claim 1, wherein the aprotic organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethylformamide, N,N-diethylformamide, N,N-dimethylacetamide, N,N-dipropylacetamide, and N,N-dimethyl benzoic acid amide, N-methylcaprolactam, N-ethylcaprolactam, N-isopropylcaprolactam, N-isobutylcaprolactam, N-n-propylcaprolactam, N-n-butylcaprolactam, and N-cyclohexylcaprolactam; N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone (NMP), N-ethyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-isopropyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-isobutyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-n-propyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-n-butyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-cyclohexyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-methyl-3-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-ethyl-3-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-methyl-3,4,5-trimethyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-methyl-2-piperidone, N-ethyl-2-piperidone, N-isopropyl-2-piperidone, N-methyl-6-methyl-2-piperidone, and N-methyl-3-ethyl-2-piperidone, or a mixture thereof.

Claim 17 (New): A lithium sulfide obtained by the method according to Claim 1, wherein a total content of sulfur oxides is 0.15 % by weight or less.

Claim 18 (New): A lithium sulfide obtained by the method according to Claim 9, wherein a total content of sulfur oxides is 0.15 % by weight or less.